

MAY 25 2001

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/388,826
Filing Date	September 1, 1999
First Named Inventor	Weimin Li
Group Art Unit	2813
Examiner Name	E. Kielin
Attorney Docket Number	MI22-1208

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply (Response to 03/23/01 Office Action Preliminary Amendment to Accompany RCE Filing)
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) w/PTO-1449 and copies of cited art
- iv. ☒ Other Version w/Markings; Postcard

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-0925
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 05/29/2001 6TEFFERA 00000140 09388826
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:179 710.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$710.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Mark S. Matkin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,268
Signature		Date	5/22/01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

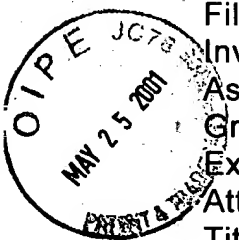
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelop addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimil transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: May 22, 2001

Name (Print/Type)	Pat Palmer	Date	5/22/01
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. 09/388,826
Filing Date September 1, 1999
Inventor Weimin Li et al.
Assignee Micron Technology, Inc.
Group Art Unit 2813
Examiner E. Kielin
Attorney's Docket No. MI22-1208
Title: Low k Interlevel Electric Layer Fabrication Methods



RESPONSE TO MARCH 23, 2001 OFFICE ACTION
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO ACCOMPANY RCE FILING

To: Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

From: Mark S. Matkin (Tel. 509-624-4276; Fax 509-838-3424)
Wells, St. John, Roberts, Gregory & Matkin P.S.
601 West First Avenue, Suite 1300
Spokane, WA 99201-3828

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11/ Pre-
Amend
C
G. Stony
5-31-01

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 23, 2001, Applicant amends
and remarks as follows:

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please replace the claims with the following clean version of the entire
set of pending claims, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(i). Cancel
all previous versions of any pending claim.